Rice University, Spring 2017 | **Instructor: Jacqueline Nalett**
LPAP 135 - Syllabus | **Introduction to Dance**

"Socrates learned to dance when he was seventy because he felt that an essential part of himself had been neglected." ~Source Unknown

"Dance is bigger than the physical body. When you extend your arm, it doesn't stop at the end of your fingers, because you're dancing bigger than that; you're dancing spirit." -Judith Jamison, Ailey Dancer

"There is something so rewarding about dancing. It's almost spiritual - you let loose, you feel free, you get endorphins from the exercise." -Julianne Hough, Dancing With The Stars

Office Hours: By Appointment | **Class Time: TUTH 2:30-3:35**
Location: Rec Center Dance Theatre | **Email: jacqueline.a.nalett@rice.edu**

Course Description:
This is an introductory dance class in which the student will briefly study several dance forms including creative dance, ballet, modern dance, ballroom, social, hip hop and jazz. You will be dancing every single class day. The material is geared towards those with no previous dance experience. Those with some dance background are welcome but be warned that the material may move too slowly for you. The student is expected to attend class with an open mind, a respectful attitude and a willingness to actively participate. In addition to this syllabus, you will also receive a course outline with due dates and daily class activities listed. There are a couple of mini-written assignments that tie into class work. Dress Code is very important, please follow it everyday.

Course Objectives

- To develop an awareness and understanding of dance movement.
- To develop an awareness and understanding of performer training techniques.
- To become familiar with some aesthetic and historic components of dance.
- To discover one's own potential as a dancer and choreographer.
- To develop an appreciation of dance as a performing art.

Grading:

FULL daily participation	**70%**
Group Choreography Project	**20%**
Written Assignments	**10%**

Course Requirements

Participation: Attendance and full participation are critical to your success in this class. In the studio, each student will be evaluated according to his or her level of participation, focus and overall improvement of course objectives. Be aware that the instructor takes student level of involvement very seriously and is acutely aware of student engagement in class material. If you are having any type of issue that affects your class participation, please talk to me so I will not misread your body language. Our class meetings are very short so please be ready to dance at the beginning of class.

Written Assignments: You will complete a journal and an interview. The journal and interview details are at the end of this syllabus.

LPAPs are for credit:
All LPAPs are for 1 credit hour and they do count toward a student's GPA. All undergraduates have to take at least 1 LPAP in order to graduate.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>**You MUST follow the class dress code below everyday.**<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

DRESS CODE:

Proper attire is required for Intro to Dance.
Your grade will be penalized and you will not be allowed to participate with inappropriate attire.

NO STREET CLOTHES ALLOWED.
NO jeans, pajama jeans, short shorts, slacks, stockings, cargo shorts, jogging shorts, skirts.
No tshirts or tanks that show cleavage.
No clothing that is not stretchy. No loose clothing that hangs off shoulders.
No big jewelry.
Hair MUST be pulled back from face and off of neck. No hair hanging in face allowed.

Proper clothes include: leotards, tights, leggings, tank tops, t-shirts, bike shorts, yoga pants, long athletic shorts, sweats (fixed to stay above ankle), loose, stretchy pants cut off above the ankle.
All pants need to fall above the ankle.
Socks, foot thongs or bare feet are required for all classes EXCEPT DURING MODERN DANCE – NO SOCKS- Too Dangerous.

Attendance Policy:
Students are expected to attend all class sessions and to actively participate while in attendance. During the course of the semester, students are allowed two "free" absences. Should a student miss an additional class, she/he will need to arrange to make up that missed class at a time and place that is agreed upon by both the student and the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate conversation with the instructor to discuss the make up, and an agreement must be reached within two weeks of the absence. If a student fails to make up a missed third or fourth class, his/her final grade will drop by one or two grade letters.
Students will not be allowed to make up more than two absences.
>>>>>>>>>**Five total absences**, including those that were made up and no matter their circumstance, will result in a failing grade for the course. See instructor for make-up options.
**if you are sick and contagious, please do not come to class. <<<<<<<<<<<<<

Honor Code Violations:

All students are expected to uphold their pledge to the Rice Honor Code. Any student caught cheating on an exam or written assignment will be reported to the Chair of the Honor Council, and an investigation will ensue. Any questions that you may have about what constitutes an honor code violation in this class can be directed to the instructor. Instructor Specifics: written work should be done in the student's own words. No copying from any source will be allowed in Ms. Nalett's class.

ADA Policy Statement
If you have a documented disability that will impact your work in this class, please contact me to discuss your needs. Additionally, you will need to register with the Disability Support Services Office in the Ley Student Center.

Tardiness
Entering class after I have called the roll is considered tardy. Two tardies equal an absence.

Class Observation Guidelines:
You may find yourself sitting out of a class if you are really late or if you are sick or injured (no more than 2 allowed per semester). Sitting out does not mean you are not involved in class. You will be taking notes on what we are doing. You are not allowed to sleep or use your phone or laptop or do work for another class while sitting out. If the instructor finds you doing any of these you will be asked to leave and marked as absent for that day.

Other Notes:
Please remember to bring water to class. Hydrating the body during a workout is necessary for optimum performance. No gum chewing for your own safety while dancing.
Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class.
No recording of class with any electronic device is allowed without teacher's permission.

Teacher Bio: http://www.uh.edu/cota/theatre-and-dance/about/faculty/nalett/

Interview Instructions

For this assignment you need to interview someone over the age of 50 and gather the following information from them: what role dance played in their lives since childhood; were they exposed to any type of dance or did they participate in any type of dance at any point in their lives; what role dance played in their cultural, religious and/or social backgrounds; the dance you are asking them about can be anything from formal classes to dancing at family gatherings, in any country, any culture, it doesn't matter if they participated or just watched dance go on around them growing up. Ask them about dance in their adult years, do they participate, watch, prefer any styles, what is their opinion of dance they see today? This assignment should be typed, double-spaced, between 200 and 400 words, to be turned submitted IN CLASS only. **No emailed copies accepted.**

Journal Instructions

Reflect on your semester in this class and discuss any of the following: new things have you learned about dance and/or about yourself; how the actual classes compared with what you thought the class would be about in the beginning; if you had fun or not; if you will be able to use your new skills and knowledge in your life; your favorite or not so favorite dance styles learned. You are free to add anything else you would like to in this journal. Journal should be typed, double-spaced, 400 + words, submitted IN CLASS only. **No emailed copies accepted.**

Spring 2017 Semester Outline

Introduction
TU Jan. 10 Introduction/Syllabus
TH Jan. 12 Introductory Activity

Ballet
TU Jan. 17
TH Jan. 19
TU Jan. 24

Modern
TH Jan. 26
TU Jan. 31
TH Feb. 2

Stretch Day
TU Feb. 7

RECESS
TH Feb. 9 – No Class

Social/Ballroom
TU Feb. 14
TH Feb. 16 **- INTERVIEW DUE IN CLASS**
TU Feb. 21
TH Feb. 23

Discussion/Video Day
TU Feb. 28

Elements of Dance/Improvisation
TH Mar. 2
TU Mar. 7
TH Mar. 9

SPRING BREAK
TU Mar. 14 – No Class
TH Mar. 16 – No Class

Jazz
TU Mar. 21
TH Mar. 23
TU Mar. 28

Hip Hop
TH Mar. 30
TU Apr. 4

End of Semester Choreography Project
TH Apr. 6 Review dance styles/Discuss final project-- **JOURNAL DUE IN CLASS**
TU Apr. 11 Work with groups
TH Apr. 13 Work with groups
TU Apr. 18 Work with groups

TH Apr. 20 Last Day of Class – Group Performances